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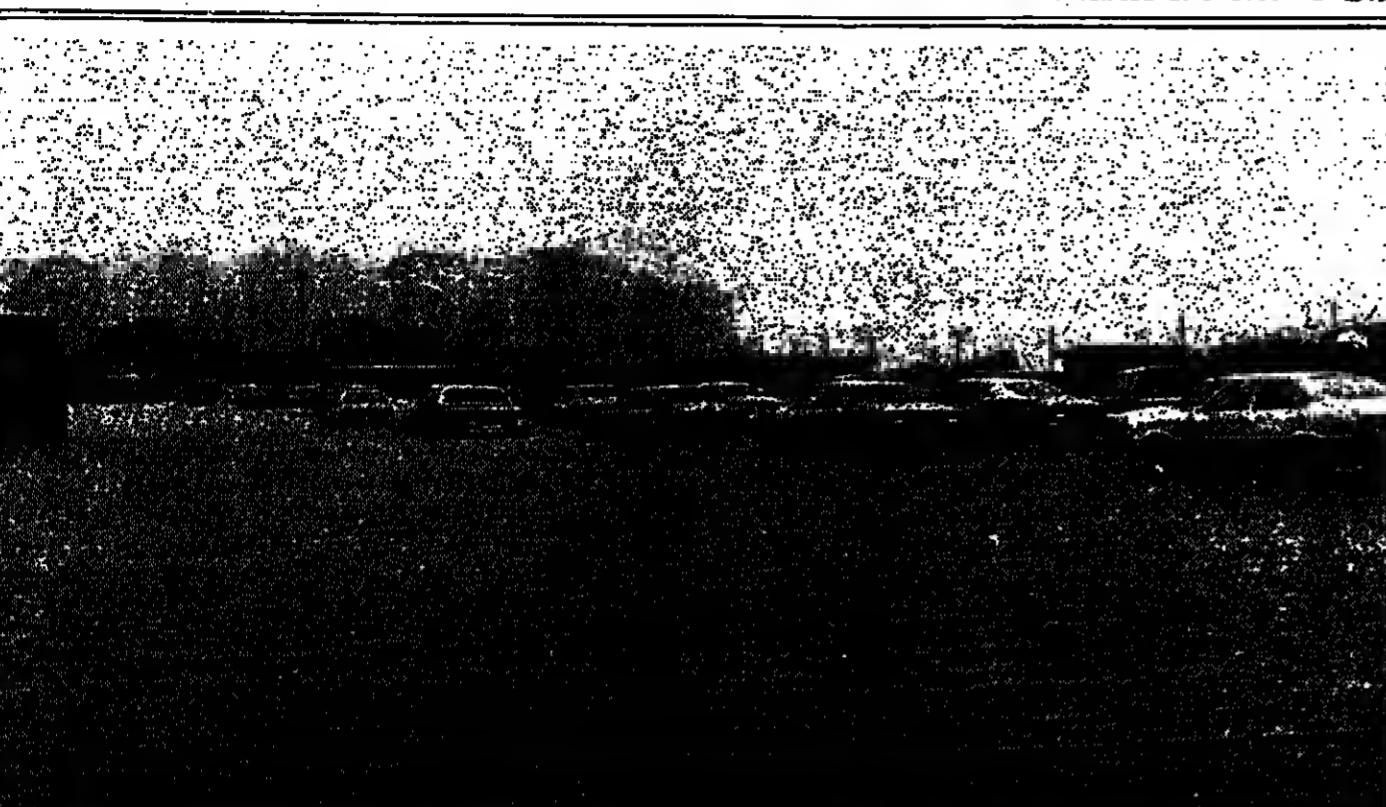
arab news

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saudi research and marketing company

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WEDNESDAY 17 JANUARY 1979 • JEDDAH • 19 SAFAR 1399 A.H.

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JEDDAH MARINA: Tuesday's freak rainstorm dumped 80 mm on Jeddah in two hours—the heaviest rainfall in the last 15 years—and made the city almost impossible to get around in. Homes were flooded and cars abandoned all over the Western Province. (See related story page two.)

Arafat opens 1st PNC working session

DAMASCUS, Jan. 16 (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat Tuesday opened the first working session of the Palestine National Council (PNC).

The meeting of the PNC, the parliament-in-exile of the PLO, had been scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. (0800 GMT) in the Syrian Trade Union Federation headquarters.

As the time approached, Arafat asked the media to clear the hall and then requested the members themselves to wait outside while the PLO Executive Committee caucused.

Sources said Arafat wanted to head off a possible dispute among the various commando organizations linked under the umbrella of the PLO over the future size and composition of the executive committee, which decides matters of policy and the allocation of funds among the groups.

There has been a proposal to expand the executive committee membership from 15 to 18. The sources said the question now seems to be how much representation on the committee should be given to Fatah, the oldest and largest commando group which is Arafat's base of power.

It appears that there already is agreement that the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine will rejoin the executive committee. The PFLP, a militant group led by George Habash, withdrew from the committee in 1974 in a policy dispute.

Another item to be discussed is the possible formation in the future of a PLO government-in-exile.

PLO spokesmen in Beirut last week said firmly that no decision on the formation of such a government would be taken by the PNC but sources said the council felt the matter should at least be considered.

Discussions on a rapprochement with King Hussein, who expelled the Palestinian commando groups from Jordan in the bloody clashes of 1970-71, was also on the PNC agenda.

The PLO has announced that Arafat will meet with Hussein who arrived in Damascus Tuesday, following the PNC meeting.

Later in the day, the PNC elected Hektor Capucci, a Greek Catholic archbishop who was released from an Israeli prison last year as an honorary member.

Archbishop Capucci now living in South America, served three years in prison on charges of smuggling arms to Palestinian commandos.

Conference sources said the council also elected eight new members, who were described as independents with no formal ties with the main commando groups.

A PLO spokesman said the council had adopted the con-

ference agenda. Delegations were due to make opening speeches Tuesday night.

The first session broke up soon after midday, giving delegates an opportunity to engage in the intensive lobbying which plays a crucial role in PNC conferences.

The council is expected to reaffirm the Palestinians' rejection of the Camp David accords and to endorse demands for stepping up their guerrilla war against Israel.

While the PNC met, King Hussein held private talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad following reports of a planned merger between Syria and Iraq.

The king, accompanied by his prime minister and army commander, arrived unexpectedly for what was described as an unofficial visit to discuss the latest Middle East developments.

No details of the talks were disclosed, but informed sources said the fast-developing alliance between Syria and its powerful eastern neighbor was one of the main topics.

Officials have not commented so far on reports by Arab diplomatic sources here that Syria and Iraq are planning to merge into a single state with one president, government and armed forces.

King Hussein and President Assad met for an hour with their government and army chiefs before conferring in private at the presidential palace.

Iraq's foreign and defense ministers, who arrived in Damascus Monday, toured Syrian military positions Tuesday on the Golan Heights.

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Advertisers outside the Kingdom are requested to contact Tihama's head office in Jeddah and/or its office in London or any advertising agency already having representation arrangements with Tihama.

New advertising rates in the three publications will be as effective March 1, 1979.

ANNOUNCEMENT

As the first English language newspaper in the Kingdom, "Arab News" has established itself as a complete information service and has earned the confidence of readers and advertisers.

"Arab News" has also sought to present a special economic service by publishing "Sandi Business" weekly which provides information for businessmen and economists inside and outside the Kingdom.

Their sister publication "Ashar Al-Awsat" is the first truly international Arabic daily which, although only a few months old, has achieved wide circulation and is now printed in London and Jeddah and will soon be printed in the Gulf and Frankfurt, West Germany.

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Fly to Egypt

Shah, family leave Iran

TEHRAN, Jan. 16 (Agencies) — With tears in his eyes, the Shah left Iran Tuesday for Egypt and the United States, piloting his own jet on a journey many believe will end in permanent exile.

His departure touched off jubilant celebrations throughout Tehran.

Two officers of the Shah's royal guard fell to their knees and tried to kiss the monarch's feet at Tehran's airport, but he motioned for them to rise, court sources said.

Two other officers, standing face to face, held aloft a copy of the Holy Koran, and the royal couple passed beneath the impromptu arch to board the "Shah's Falcon," a royal Boeing 727. Court sources said the monarch took the controls himself.

"The Shah is gone forever," people chanted as millions poured into the streets of Tehran, showering each other with candies and rose water, cheering and shouting with joy at what they saw as victory in a year-long, bloody uprising to topple the 59-year-old Shah.

Shortly before he left, the Shah issued a decree pardoning 240 prisoners who had been convicted for various offences by military tribunals, the official Iranian radio reported.

Motorists honked their horns, flashed their headlights and waved their windshield wipers. Many jumped from their cars and hugged each other.

The Shah later arrived in Aswan, Egypt, where he was greeted by President Anwar Sadat, Egypt's Middle East News Agency reported. The Shah was received with a 21-gun salute and Egyptians lined the streets under "Welcome to the Shah" banners.

The two then drove to a hotel on an island in the Nile River, where the Shah, his wife and their entourage were staying.

73 passengers

Sadr supporters hijack MEA plane

BEIRUT, Jan. 16 (Agencies) — Three gunmen hijacked a Lebanese airliner with 73 passengers on board Tuesday and said they wanted to protest the five-month disappearance of Lebanon's top Shiite leader Imam Moussa Sadr, Beirut Airport reported.

The gunmen identified themselves as Lebanese nationals belonging to an organization called Amal (hope) that was founded by the missing Imam at the 1975 outbreak of Lebanon's civil war, the airport spokesman reported.

The hijackers first told the airport control tower they were Palestinians planning to take the plane to Larnaca airport in Cyprus or to the Turkish capital Ankara.

They revealed their true identity after they landed the plane back in Beirut, when the Greek-Cypriot government and Turkey refused to grant the aircraft landing clearance in either country, the spokesman added.

The Cypriot authorities feared the hijackers might land in Larnaca and demand the release of two Palestinian gunmen serving a life sentence in a Nicosia jail for the murder of a prominent Egyptian newspaper editor in Cyprus last February.

Lebanese officials said security forces cordoned the plane off shortly after its landing at a secluded runway.

Interior Minister Salim Salim and Health Minister Ibrahim Sheito were negotiating with the skyjackers to release the passengers and the crew unharmed, the officials added.

The plane was commanded 50 minutes after it took off from Beirut for Amman at 1615 GMT. The skyjackers took it to Lebanese air space at 1705 GMT and told the airport control tower here they were heading for Larnaca.

The aircraft circled the Cyprus air space for more than an hour before heading back to Beirut.

Among the passengers are Lebanese parliament member Mahmoud Ammar and his wife.

The hijacker demanded the plane be refueled and told the Lebanese government negotiators: "We want to make our voice heard in the world. We are Sadists and want the fumak back."

Imam Sadr has been missing since he flew to Libya last October.

plant Prime Minister Shahrokh Bakhtiar and the new government appointed by the Shah.

The departure of the Shah is not the final victory. It is the preface to our victory," Khomeini told reporters Tuesday. On Monday night, he urged his followers in Iran to "continue their protests against the illegal government and monarchy."

The lower house of the Majlis, the Iranian parliament, confirmed Bakhtiar and his cabinet Tuesday by a vote of 149-43 with 13 abstentions. The senate gave it a vote of confidence Monday.

The Shah's mother-in-law and three of his children were reported Tuesday to have arrived in Lubbock, Texas to join Crown Prince Reza.

Officials would not confirm who had arrived aboard an Iranian Air Force plane, but local sources said they included Farideh Dibah, the empress' mother, Princess Farahnaz, 17, Prince Akreza, 12, and Princess Leila, 8.

Khalil warns Israel against hitting Syria

KHARTOUM, Jan. 16 (Agencies) — Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil has cautioned Israel that "Egypt will not stand with bands folded" if Israel attacks Syrian troops in Lebanon.

Khalil's warning was made at an airport news conference: "Our aim and hope during this trip is to resolve issues related to the treaty articles, which had not yet been agreed in order to prepare the way for meetings at the ministerial level."

Khalil refused to elaborate. "We had been told by both the governments of Israel and Egypt that they do desire to continue the negotiating process and to conclude a peace treaty and a peace treaty package," he said.

Saud to visit Germany

RIYADH, Jan. 16 (SPA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal will pay a short visit to West Germany at the invitation of German Foreign Minister Hans Genscher.

The Saudi Press Agency said Prince Saud will hold talks with his German counterpart on bilateral relations, joint cooperation, and international issues, including the Middle East problem.

Amin heads for King's camp

RIYADH, Jan. 16 (SPA) — Ugandan President Idi Amin left Riyadh Tuesday for King Khalid's camp outside Riyadh. He was seen off at the airport by Governor of Riyadh Prince Salman and a number of senior officials.

The Ugandan leader was accompanied by Dr. Rashad Pharaon, the King's special adviser, and Ahmad Abdul Wahab, head of the Royal Protocol.

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Worst torrential rain in 15 years paralyzes Jeddah, Western Province

80 mm falls in downpour

By Michael J. Hall

A thundering two-hour rainstorm, the heaviest in 15 years, turned Jeddah's streets into rivers, lakes and ponds Tuesday, making getting around almost impossible and virtually shutting commercial life in the city.

King Khalid ordered schools closed in Mecca and Jeddah Wednesday to help students who might not otherwise be able to travel and to get over the effects of the unexpected storm, which flooded houses throughout the city.

Scores of motorists caught in the drenching rain abandoned their stalled cars in the middle of the streets, adding to the congestion.

3 inches

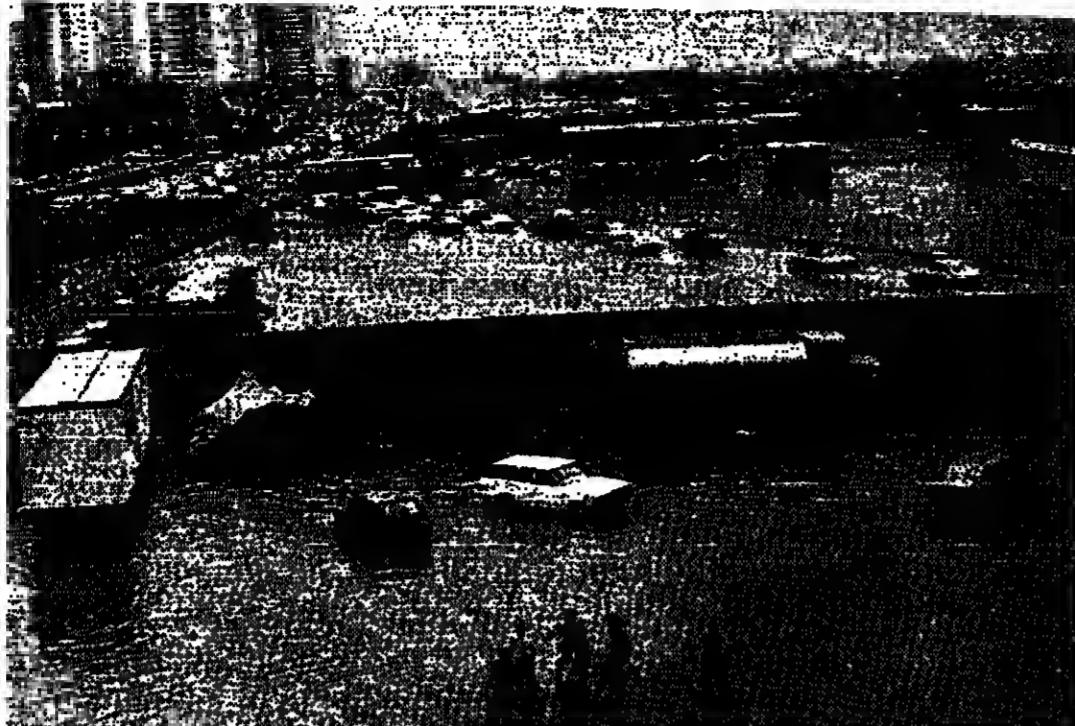
The government's Meteorological Department said Tuesday night that 80 mm of rain—about three inches—fell during the downpour which began at 11:30 a.m.

Added to four mm of rain Monday, that put total rainfall here for 1979 at 84 mm, or almost one-and-one-half times the yearly average of 65 mm.

The Meteorological Department said the storm affected almost all of Saudi Arabia's Red Sea coast and sent temperatures in Jeddah plunging to 18 degrees centigrade, a record low for this time of year.

Electricity was blacked out in parts of the city for up to five hours, and the last lingering rain didn't stop falling in the Jeddah International Airport area until 5 p.m., though the worst of the storm was over by 1:30 p.m.

Flights in and out of the airport were suspended until 7:00 a.m. Wednesday, with incoming flights diverted to other



SURRENDER: All pretense of staying dry gone, people paddle in the floods beside the airport as traffic snarls to a halt along Prince Fahd Street.

airports in the Kingdom and abroad.

Construction fences and even 10-foot cactuses were blown down by the strong gusts which preceded the storm, and there were reports that the wind and the driving rainfall did serious damage to a number of prefabricated buildings.

Lucky

Those lucky enough to be warm and dry indoors were treated to a spectacular display of thunder and lightning, but outdoors it was a different story.

Businesses throughout the city shut their doors by noon and many did not reopen their doors after the storm quieted down. Rivers of water—in some places up to a meter deep—trapped cars in many parts of the city.

But the storm also had its gentler moments: people gave rides to strangers in the suddenly taxi-less streets; excavator operators used their machines' giant claws to lift people

across hardly flooded Street near the airport it was moving at only a crawl late in the evening. The southbound lane of that artery was blocked to traffic for about an hour to allow drivers caught in a massive jam at the intersection of Sharafia to get their cars moving.

There were also worse moments. Some taxi drivers reported charged passengers double and triple fares—SR 20 to 30 for a trip which normally costs SR 10—and then crammed wet passengers on top of passengers already inside. And there were reports, too, that owners of four-wheel drive vehicles and gangs of casual laborers were demanding—and getting—fees of SR 50 to haul stalled cars out of ditches.

Functioned

Hamra still functioned. Settled about 12 years ago its streets can handle rain but water lapped at the grilles of cars on Medina Road south of the Foreign Ministry. Even four-wheel drive vehicles were intimidated, Sharafia was a brown flood.

By 5 p.m. the traffic on many streets was returning to some semblance of normality, but along Crown Prince Fahd

One resident reported that fuel oil drums stored in nearby stores burst during the storm, flooding his floor with six inches of pungent diesel fuel.

Freak

Some parts of the city were barely affected by the storm, but for most of Jeddah and Mecca the freak downpour turned life into a daylong misery of soggy clothing, flooded rooms, missed work, and frantic attempts to bail out stalled cars and deluged houses.

They laughed when I arrived in Jeddah carrying my raincoat. They're not laughing any more. Tuesday taught them—and me—a lesson.

When I saw the lightning, the wind and the rain this morning I slung the trench coat over my shoulders. No problem, I figured, seeing as our house is only a half block from Crown Prince Fahd Street, and from there it's a straight shot past Jeddah Tower and the airport to the "Arab News" office.

A taxi will be along soon and anyway, while I'm waiting, I have a nice clean trench coat to protect me from the elements.

The usual five-minute wait stretched to 10 and then 20 minutes, and still not a cab in sight. Several pickup trucks passed, loaded with 20 to 30 people clutching scraps of plastic sheeting over their heads. I trusted to my raincoat to keep me dry.

About an hour later, an elegantly thobed and gilded Saudi gentleman pulled up in a new Buick. I accepted a lift gladly. That got me through the lake to the Palestine Road flyover and within sight of the airport, when the gentleman sadly informed me he couldn't go any farther.

I set off on foot, hoping calf-high boots and the trashy—though by now slightly tattered—raincoat would stand me in good or at least dry stead.

But as I walked along the median strip—or waded along the median strip—in front of Jeddah Tower, water got deeper. And deeper. And deeper yet. And there were currents running through it. Currents which grew stronger as the water grew still deeper.

Until, just at the airport entrance, I tripped. Head over

heels, all of me, right into a pool at least three feet deep. At the office, the lights were out; almost nobody had gotten in; and there was uncertainty about whether we'd even

get a newspaper published. Total time for the trip: two-and-a-half hours. Normal time five minutes. — (M.J.H.)

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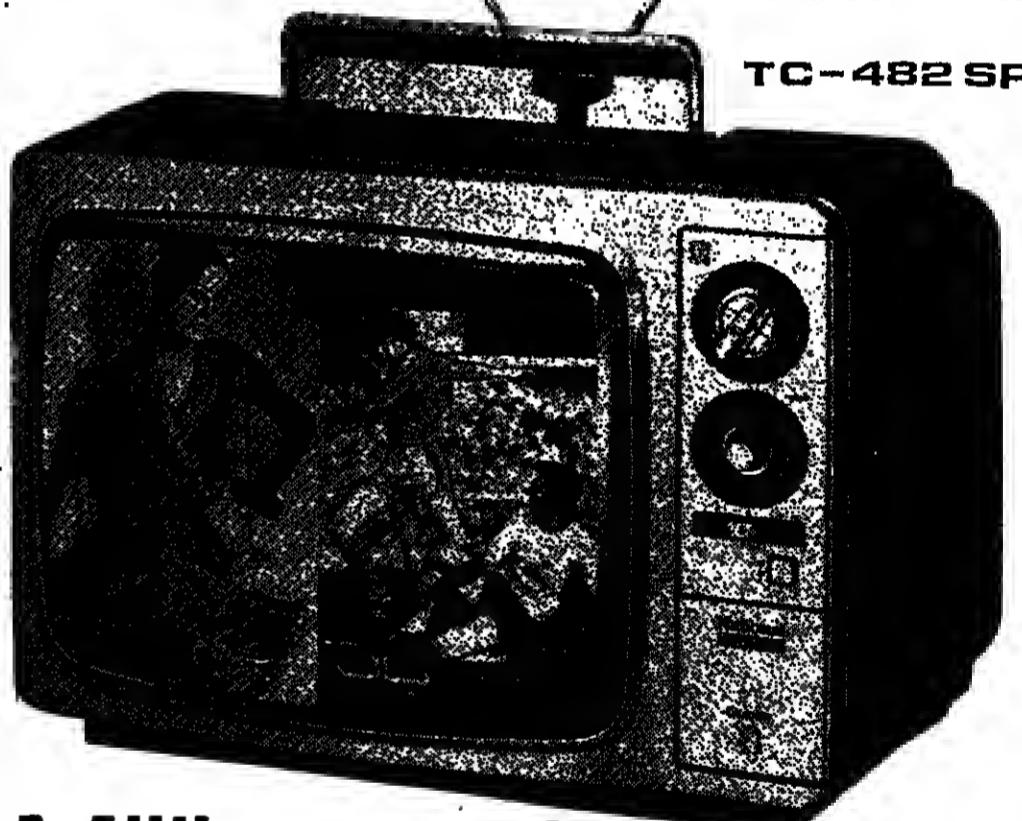
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Palestinian farmer and son

Israel arrests 2 for aiding Maalot commandos

TEL AVIV, Jan. 16 (Agencies) — An Arab farmer and his son have been held on charges of helping three Palestinian commandos who attacked the northern township of Maalot Saturday.

Hanna ben Gabeis, 67, and his son Sami, 17, were ordered by a magistrate in Acre, north of Haifa, to be detained on suspicion of giving food and shelter to the three after they had crossed the Lebanese border.

At the United Nations, Israel told the Security Council Monday that the attack was a sign of increased efforts by the Palestine Liberation Organization to infiltrate armed men into southern Lebanon.

In a letter to Council President Donald Mills of Jamaica, Israeli Representative Yehuda Blum claimed the attempt to

commandeer the guest house at Maalot and hold its 230 occupants hostage ended when Israeli troops shot and killed the commandos.

One woman fell to her death while trying to escape through a window and two guests and a soldier were wounded.

"This latest incident, as well as the recent shelling of the town of Kiryat Shmonah on Dec. 21 1978, is indicative of the concerted efforts in recent months to increase the infiltration into southern Lebanon of armed PLO men with a view to using the area as a base for operations against civilian targets in Israel, as it had been for several years in the past," Blum said.

This development underlined the fact that the task of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) of restoring

peace and security, not only remained unfulfilled but was also "directly challenged by the same elements which have consistently endeavored to use Lebanese territory for launching attacks on Israel."

The Israeli government was

duty bound to take all measures necessary to protect the lives and safety of its citizens, Blum added.

But Algeria disagrees. The government daily "Al-Moudjahid" said Monday the use by the commandos and Polisario guerrillas of the name of late President Houari Boumedienne was "a tribute which only true fighters deserve."

The newspaper was referring to adoption of the late president's name by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine in the raid, as well as by the Algeria-backed Polisario movement in its own campaign against Moroccan forces in western Sahara called "offensive Houari Boumedienne."

"More than a gesture of gratitude, this is one of the most striking tributes these fighters can pay to Algeria and its late president," it said.

Boumedienne died Dec. 27.

In other apparent commando action, Israeli police claimed they dismantled a large bomb hidden in a car in downtown Jerusalem Tuesday morning.

An officer at the scene told Israel Radio that a stolen Mercedes "loaded with explosives" was discovered and defused on Ben-Yehuda street in the heart of the Jewish business district. There were no injuries, police said, and the area was reopened to traffic after the incident.

Police recently warned that Israelis should be on the lookout for suspicious packages since bombs have been planted in various cities across the occupied area.

Three criminal cases relating to the misuse of public funds are pending against Bhutto before a special tribunal of the Lahore High Court.

The paper said evidence has been found that Bhutto misused vast public funds involving millions of rupees for his own benefit.

Three criminal cases relating to the misuse of public funds are pending against Bhutto before a special tribunal of the Lahore High Court.

The paper with 104 pages of supporting documents states that Bhutto spent \$17,000 in public funds on his two private homes in Karachi and Larkana, his home town.

The government had already issued two White Papers on the Bhutto regime. The first, released last July, charged Bhutto with rigging general elections in March 1977, and the other, issued last August, charged that Bhutto misused the news media.

Bhutto was ousted from power in a coup in July 1977 and a military government led by Gen. Zia Ul Haq took over.

Bhutto was sentenced to death for the murder of a

newspaper editor.

The paper accused Bhutto of weakening the country's democratic structures.

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Venezuela oil will not fill Iran vacuum, Perez asserts



President Perez

CARACAS, Jan. 16 (AP) — President Carlos Andres Perez says Venezuela should resist international pressure to raise its production to help fill the gap created by the shutdown of Iran's petroleum industry. "Venezuela could be subjected to pressure to supply more oil, we should resist this as much as possible," the president said. "When production is climbing, the oil that is not sold now can be sold tomorrow at higher prices," Perez said today in Valencia, 160 kilometers west of here. Venezuela's oil production during the first two weeks of 1979 averaged 2,206,000 barrels a day, just over the mark of 2 million barrels set by the new government as maximum output in order to protect reserves. Proven reserves are expected to run for about 20 years. The present production rate, a state oil monopoly, Petros de Venezuela, has begun shore exploration to find new deposits of conventional

Even if Venezuela wanted to increase production to help meet any shortages created by the crippling of Iran's oil industry, such efforts would be severely limited by a maximum production capacity of 2.5 million barrels a day. Oil experts also warn that producing at maximum capacity can damage older wells.

Perez acknowledged Sunday that Venezuela had made promises to certain countries to supply them with oil and said that "at any moment we might feel obliged to sell more oil than we are now selling."

In any case, he said, such increases would be temporary. "I have ordered Petroleos de Venezuela to prepare technical studies which would clearly show to what extent we could increase our sales without causing damage to oil wells or wasting important amounts of gas," he said.

Venezuela also possesses vast reserves of extra-heavy crude in its so-called "Orinoco Oil Belt," but these deposits require as yet undeveloped technology to make production profitable. Perez has said world oil prices must reach \$20 to \$25 a barrel before the belt is worth developing.

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Please note that a deposit of SR. 1,000. per container is required to issue delivery order. We would like to point that porters having reefer containers onboard the vessel should obtain delivery order soonest possible upon vessels arrival.

Owners/Agents will not be responsible for any delays in the receipt of delivery order and subsequent delay in picking up the cargo in the port.

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PORTS AUTHORITY

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SHIP MOVEMENTS UP TO THE MORNING OF

CHANGES PAST 24 HRS. DATE: 18.2.1399/16.1.1979

TIME: 0700 HRS.

1. Vessels Working the Ship Agent Type of cargo Arrival Date.

Berth No.

3 DINARA GLOBE GENERAL 14/1/1979
5 AL OMARIAH KANOO GENERAL 16/1/1979
9 ASIA SAMHO GOLF STEEL GENERAL 9/1/1979
12 FINN MAID S.M.C. GENCONTRS 15/1/1979
13 STRATHCARBUL KANOO GENERAL 15/1/1979
16 ROCKHAMPTON STAR BARBER GENERAL REEFER 15/1/1979
17 ABUL WAIA S.E.A. GENERAL 14/1/1979
18 ORIENTAL EXPORTER BARBER GENERAL 16/1/1979
19 JIN YANG-17 S.E.A. C. CEMENT 15/1/1979
20 PACIFIC PRIOR GOSAIBI C. CEMENT 12/1/1979
21 WORLD CREST (D.B.) ALIREZA BULK CEMENT 5/1/1979
26 KAVO GROSSOS U.P. ALIREZA SUGAR IN BAGS 7/1/1979
27 STRATHLENFELS ALIREZA GENERAL 15/1/1979

2. Recent Arrivals

JIN YANG-17 S.E.A. C. CEMENT 15/1/1979
SILVER ZEPHYR ALIREZA BULK CEMENT 15/1/1979
ZUDIN ALIREZA C. CEMENT 15/1/1979
STRATHLENFELS ALIREZA GENERAL 15/1/1979
FINN MAID S.M.C. GENCONTRS 15/1/1979
STRATHCARBUL KANOO GENERAL 15/1/1979
ROCKHAMPTON STAR BARBER GENERAL REEFER 15/1/1979
ORIENTAL EXPORTER KANOO GENERAL 16/1/1979
QAROOGH ALIREZA KANOO GENERAL 15/1/1979
AL OMARIAH KANOO GENERAL 16/1/1979

3. Vessels Expected Within 24 Hours

WENNOMA S.E.A. KANOO 15/1/1979
WAKANAMI MARI VIREZA KANOO 15/1/1979
IBN QUTUBAH KANOO 15/1/1979
VISHNU MARI KANOO 15/1/1979
GALANT A.E.T. 15/1/1979
PIONEER CITY OF HULI KANOO 15/1/1979
AL OMARIAH KANOO 15/1/1979
INTER BARGE 2 N/A ALIREZA 15/1/1979

4-Tonnages Discharged: (Freight Tons): 24,671

5-Waiting Time: NIL

Note: Importers having goods on the above mentioned ships should complete their formalities as soon as possible. For any inquiries please contact the Shipping Agents.

Egypt, Sudan expand trade pact to \$101M

KHARTOUM, Jan. 16 (R) — Egypt and Sudan have signed a trade agreement worth \$101.1 million, an increase of 14 per cent over their previous pact, the Sudan news agency has reported.

The agreement concluded a three day meeting of the Seventh Joint Higher Ministerial Committee for integration of the two countries.

Twenty-eight ministers from Egypt and Sudan met in Khartoum to discuss plans for political, economic and social integration.

Egypt and Sudan have a joint defense pact and signed

an agreement on an integration program in 1974.

Sudan exchanges Livestock, gum and dates for Egyptian rice and textiles.

The agency said the ministers also agreed to establish a 25,000 acre agricultural project east of Wedi-Halifa (north Sudan) and to set up an air service between Sumbi-Halifa and Dongola, the two adjoining provinces that form the integration area.

The ministers also agreed to eliminate customs duties between the two countries by the end of this year, Suna said.

Carter says budget deficit will not exceed \$30 billion

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (AP) — President Carter has said the deficit in his 1980 budget which he will reveal on Jan. 22, will be less than \$30 billion.

In an interview broadcast on NBC news, Carter said he does not anticipate a recession, as has been predicted by some private sector analysts as a consequence of his moves to stem inflation.

"We have been encouraged by the economic news of the three months," Carter said. "I

think our economy is strong enough to withstand this very moderate effort against inflation."

Carter's anti-inflation program includes efforts to reduce the rate of increase in federal spending, voluntary wage and price guidelines and a policy of higher interest rates.

He said cooperation among the administration, Congress and the private sector would be necessary for the effort to succeed.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
U.S. Dollar	3.32	3.35	3.35
Pound Sterling	6.61	6.73	6.71
Deutsche Mark	1.79 (100)	180.75	180.50
Swiss F	1.97 (100)	202.00	199.50
French F	0.78 (100)	79.25	79.00
Italian Lira (1000)	—	4.10	4.00
Lebanese Lira (100)	—	110.50	110.50
Syrian Lira (100)	—	81.00	86.15
Egyptian Pound	—	4.55	4.80
Kuwaiti Dinar	—	12.24	12.22
Jordanian Dinar	—	11.40	11.40
Emirates Dirham (100)	—	86.25	86.25
Qatari Riyal (100)	—	86.25	86.25
Bahraini Dinar	—	8.62	8.62
Iranian Rial (100)	—	—	—
Iraqi Dinar	—	9.50	—
Yemeni Rial (100)	—	74.00	73.90
South Yemeni Dinar	—	—	—
Moroccan Dirham (100)	—	78.75	88.25
Indian Rupee (100)	—	36.50	41.00
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	—	34.00
Gold kg	—	23,500	—
10 Tolas bar	—	2,760	—
Silver kg bar	—	—	—
Japanese yen (100)	1.68	—	—
Canadian dollar	2.79	—	—
Belgian franc (10)	1.13	—	—
Dutch guilder	1.65	—	—
Italian Lira (100)	0.39	—	—

Cash and transfer rates supplied by Al-Rajhi Company for currency Exchange and Commerce, Gabel St., Jeddah.

SAMA rates announced by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency, based on average rates on the London Money market and the official price of the U.S. dollar.

Mobutu announces

France to double aid to Zaire

PARIS, Jan. 16 (R) — Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko says France will more than double its contribution to an international aid scheme for his country's troubled economy.

The Zairean leader told reporters after talks with French President Valery Giscard d'Estate Monday, "France is now raising its contribution from \$15 million to \$35 million."

President Mobutu last week asked Belgium — the former colonial power — to help speed up a \$90 million aid scheme which involves 10 creditor countries.

He said Monday that leading industrial countries, Japan and



President Mobutu
Saudi Arabia, would meet in Washington in March for World Bank-sponsored talks to complete plans for financial and technical assistance to Zaire.

Saudi Arabia is not one of

the 10 creditor countries involved in the scheme, but the Arab states last month pledged to give the central African country a year's supply of crude oil.

Mobutu said he was confident that the 10 creditor nations — Belgium, Britain, Italy, West Germany, the United States, Japan, France, Holland, Canada and Iran — would attempt to reschedule Zaire's \$2.5 billion foreign debt.

Mobutu confirmed Zaire's currency had been devalued by 50 per cent over the past six months and said this was due to re-adjustment measures taken at the recommendation of the International Monetary Fund.

Saudi Arabian Government Tenders

Authority	Description	No. of Tender	Price SR	Closing Date
• Municipality of Al-Ahsa	Building of a meat and vegetable market	4	500	Feb. 12
• " "	Removal of sands from Hajra Ambak	5	500	Feb. 18
• Municipality of Tabuk	Securing of fuel and servicing of vehicles and machinery	xx	30	Jan. 30
• Municipality of Riyadh Al-Khabra	Temporary asphalting of some streets	xx	300	Jan. 29
• Municipality of Medina	Repairs to municipality's lab	xx	50	Feb. 10
• Directorate of Education, Medina	Securing of school furniture	xx	50	Feb. 5
• Ministry of Agriculture and Water	Water connection for Mielja municipality from the new well. No. 801	2/8	200	Jan. 23



PORTS AUTHORITY

JEDDAH ISLAMIC PORT

SHIP MOVEMENTS UP TO THE MORNING OF

16TH JANUARY 1979

1-VESSELS DISCHARGING BERTH VESSEL AGENT CARGO ARR.DATE

1	—	—	—	—
3	—	—	—	—
4	FLAVIA	S.N.L.	GENCONTRS	13/1/1979
5	TALISMAN	BARBER	CONTAINERS	15/1/1979
6	OCRA 1 HARVEST	ABRASH	GENERAL	5/1/1979
7	OCRA 1 HARVEST	A.E.T.	CONTAINERS	15/1/1979
8	MALDIVIAN EXPRESS	OCEAN TRD.	GENERAL TEA	15/1/1979
9	—	—	—	—
10	ANNIA	ALSAADA KANOO	BAGGED CEMENT RICE FLUOR	30/12/1978 - 5/1/1979
11	ANNIA	—	—	—
12	BALTIMORE EX PORT NEW ATLANTIC FOREST	A.E.T.	SEEFER/MACHINERY	14/1/1979
13	—	—	—	—
14	—			

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AFTER THE SHAH

The Shah left Tehran with tears in his eyes. Who would have believed only a year ago that the Shah would suffer such humiliation in full sight of the whole world? Without any pre-judge one can safely say that the Shah caused his own problems. It is not a good excuse to blame all the ills of the country on the advisers and claim that the Shah "didn't know." He chose and appointed his advisers and their authorities have always been based on his. It is neither acceptable to blame "foreign conspiracies" for the downfall because it is in the nature of things for foreigners to "conspire" to serve their own interests and for a ruler or regime to thwart or deflect the "conspiracies" and utilize the contradictions in foreign interests to serve those of his own people.

At any rate, the more pressing questions today are not those of what went wrong in the past but rather what is going to happen tomorrow. The new rulers have a formidable task before them. The economy is in shambles and that alone will put pressure on all their plans. But before the new rulers could cross that bridge they must first get to it. They can only do that united because, if the former opposition starts fighting among itself, conditions in the country will get much worse than they have ever been under the Shah.

Assuming that the opposition can sort out its differences and hammer out a common reform program, the task thereon will be made easier if the new rulers benefit from the more blatant mistakes of the Shah. Two suffice: first, the Shah embarked on regional and international ambitions before putting his own house in order with the result that the Iranian people saw billions of dollars squandered on defense while more needed spending on schools, medicine, industry and roads lagged behind; second, the Shah pulled away from the all-important religious base, which has kept the country together for 1,400 years, with the result that the people have felt confronted with alien ideas and practices that they have not been prepared to accept.

The people who saw the Shah leave are full of hopes and hopefully they won't be disappointed. But a change of government, or even regime, is not enough. There have been many cases of change of regime in the Middle East where the change has been for the worst, and several examples of changes for the better in Western Europe in recent years. The new rulers will have no one to blame but themselves if they fail. One advantage they have over the Shah is the lesson he has left them.

It won't be long before the Iranians and the outside world will be able to judge the performance of the Shah's successors. As far as the Gulf and the region itself are concerned there is cause for guarded optimism. The new rulers will have to abandon the Shah's costly ambitions and confine themselves to curing the local ills. And there is no reason to fear that the Iranian troubles will be repeated in neighboring countries because the grievances of the Iranians are not suffered by their neighbors. Trouble would start only if the Shah's successors fight among themselves and fail in their reform program. They might then look around for excuses. So it may be good policy for their neighbors to help them succeed.

Missile boats

By Andrew Wilson

LONDON — When a small Egyptian patrol boat sank the Israeli destroyer Elat with a Russian-built Styx missile in October 1967, the world became aware that conventional values in sea war were changing.

Today there are 750 fast missile boats (FMBs) in service throughout the world, of which 150 are the navies of the Warsaw Pact countries. Although most displace less than 500 tons, each can do as much damage as a broadside from an 8-inch cruiser during World War II.

The Arab states in the Mediterranean will soon have as many as 77 FMBs between them. Libya alone will have 41. The new situation has given birth to a new reference book — Brassey's "Fast Attack Craft" — published in London by the old-established publishing house of Brassey, which works in conjunction with the Royal United Services Institute for Defense Studies.

In the foreword the editor, John Marriott, points to the history of the Mediterranean as a danger spot for the West: "One wonders how the United States Sixth Fleet would fare if an attack were mounted against it." The Sixth Fleet would al-

most certainly answer this proposition by saying that its air power can be deployed against attackers over a sufficiently wide area to prevent their concentration.

Nevertheless, armed with a combination of long-range anti-ship missiles and wire-guided torpedoes capable of sinking targets more than 12 miles away, FMBs are likely to become the main craft of all but the largest navies in the future.

Marriott echoes a not insignificant body of naval opinion when he questions the slowness of governments such as those of Britain and France their navies with FMBs: "It is surprising that Britain has no armed fast attack craft at all and France has only just commissioned its Trident class."

Such craft he argues, would have an important role in patrolling the English Channel and the Mediterranean.

The Russians, by contrast,

have invested in a considerable number of FMBs, although Marriott says: "It is far from clear what is the reasoning behind this (Russian) policy, unless they are intended as escorts for military convoys forcing their way from the Baltic to the open sea, or to seize the Dardanelles." — (OFNS)

saudi press review

"Omar" forecast a violent confrontation between the Iranian religious leadership and the communists led by Tudeh party following the departure of the Shah.

"The aim of Tudeh is to exploit the present turmoil in the country for reaching power either in partnership with the religious leadership which is presently on top or alone if possible."

"The Shiite leadership is aware of communist designs and this explains its declaration that it would form an Islamic system of government to exclude the communists from power. But the communists, on the other hand, are taking advantage of the public sympathy for the religious leadership by capitalizing on the ignorance of the masses which resulted from the wrong and misleading educational system of the former regime. The communists aim at using religion as a vehicle to reach their ob-

jective through the adoption of attractive but false slogans like social justice and equality."

The paper concluded that the two sides will eventually clash and perpetuate a bloody conflict following this temporary alliance."

"Omar" dealt with the Real Estate Development Fund and said its rules "make it impossible for many citizens to obtain loans to build their own homes because of its insistence that each applicant should have a plot of land to offer as collateral."

"Not every one owns land and many people failed to benefit from the facility."

"To overcome this problem, the Abha municipality has distributed plots of land to 2,000 citizens thereby enabling them to qualify for loans. Unfortunately, this practice is still restricted to Abha. This leads us to ask the authorities to make this allocation of land a general practice throughout the

country to those who wish to build their own homes can do so. In this way, the Fund, set up by the government to serve the people, will have served its purpose," the paper said.

"Al-Nadwa" said the departure of the Shah "marks the start of a decisive stage in Iran." The paper hoped that the country would be able to avoid "further suffering and misery as well as intrigues that aim at destroying it."

The paper called on Iranians to "beware of the foreign forces that are in wait to pounce on them and their country. It is the historic task of the armed forces and the new leaders to save their country from division and conflict and lead it to safety while they repair the damage that has been done and the injuries inflicted on the nation."

In a commentary on the

"LET'S REMEMBER WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR — TO KEEP GETTING ALL OF US RE-ELECTED"



Anti-SALT Soviets

By Walter Isaacson
WASHINGTON —

The Soviet Union, like the United States, has a powerful strategic nuclear weapons establishment, and it may have been important in the last-minute hitches thrown into the SALT II negotiations at Geneva last month.

According to informed Carter administration sources, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko sought to modify language in the SALT agreement that is supposed to limit the United States and Soviet Union to testing and deploying only new type of land-based ICBM during the five-year treaty period.

The Soviets, according to intelligence sources, already have four new ICBMs ready for testing. They are the products of the USSR's three missile design bureaus — a military-industrial complex that for years has been regularly grinding out new ICBM missile models like Ford and General Motors put out cars.

If the new type limitation stands as the U.S. wants it, the Soviet bureaucracy involved in missile production might face a cutback or at least a redirection. In addition, the powerful Soviet strategic rocket forces, that nation's premier military service, might see a diminution in its growth.

According to U.S. analysts, Gromyko has made a last minute effort to put a loophole in the new type language that would permit the Soviet missile production complex and military arm to keep the current size and direction.

So far, U.S. negotiators have been firm in rejecting the Gromyko proposal and according to one administration source, "the Carter administration shows no sign of changing."

The draft SALT provision

to limit new ICBMs is termed the only "radical step forward" in the new agreement, according to one arms control expert close to the negotiations.

It would prevent the Soviets from adding more warheads to any of its currently-deployed missiles and would limit to 10 the number of warheads on the one new type missile could carry.

Thus, sources point out, the bureau that produced the big Soviet ICBM, the SS-9 deployed in 1961, went on to build the enormous SS-9 in 1965 and the SS-18 in 1975. A second bureau turned out the SS-11 in 1966, a smaller missile compared by some to the U.S. Minuteman, though not nearly as accurate. The same bureau is now turning out successors to the SS-11, the SS-17 and SS-19, both of which have begun to be deployed since 1975.

A third missile bureau appeared in the 1960s specializing in solid-fueled missiles. Its SS-13 was first deployed in 1968 and that was followed in 1971 by the SS-14, the first Soviet mobile ICBM. The mobile SS-16 has never been deployed. The SALT agreement barred mobile ICBM's but analysts who have followed Soviet missile testing say the unreliability of the SS-16 had as much to do with its never getting out of test phase.

A two-stage mobile version of the SS-16, called the SS-20, was introduced in 1977 and began to be deployed in western Russia. With its 5,000-kilometer range, and three warheads per missile, the SS-20 has become a matter of concern among West European nations against whom it is targeted.

The fourth missile design bureau no longer works on weapons. It produced the SS-8 in the early 1960s and then moved into the space launch area, sources say.

It is fear of that type of bureaucratic change that may have pushed the Soviet missile establishment to have Gromyko seek alteration of the new type of missile provision. — (WP)

Jet sales to China

By Mark Frankland

LONDON —

There has been from the start an air of inevitability about the British sale of Harrier jump jets to China.

Voices questioning the wisdom of the deal were heard in Whitehall. There have also been doubts among Britain's West European allies and in Washington. But two considerations, above all, proved stronger than all the doubts.

The first was purely British: immediate gain demanded that Britain agreed to sell the Harriers in order not to lose a very large trade deal with China. It is questionable whether Britain handled the Chinese very skillfully, for they let the Chinese tacitly pose their condition (Harriers first, trade deal second) instead of making the running by insisting that Harriers could only be part of a larger deal. But that is a matter of detail. What counted was that both government and industry were scared of losing the China market to European or American competitors.

The second consideration, part British, part American, was strategic. A China independent of the Soviet Union is seen as a blessing for the West. Whitehall feels it owes Moscow no favors. Nor does Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's adviser for national security affairs.

The strategic gain to the

West of having a Chinese counterweight on the eastern borders of the Soviet Union is obvious. Given the growth of Soviet power in the world a stronger, independent China is easily seen as doing some of the West's work for it.

To these two main themes London adds a number of minor, descents. The Harriers, British officials say, are after all only defensive. They will perform the same defensive role along the Chinese border with the Soviet Union that they might have done along NATO's border had NATO been wise enough to buy them.

The British also say that while they know Moscow will dislike the deal, the Soviet Union badly wants stable relations with the West. Making the running by insisting that Harriers could only be part of a larger deal. But that is a matter of detail. What counted was that both government and industry were scared of losing the China market to European or American competitors.

There is also the chance that Moscow would feel free to cause trouble for the West in areas where recently there has been a certain restlessness. Southern Africa is an obvious possibility, Berlin another.

These worries are vague and often met by the question: "why should we worry about Russia? It is not our friend." The only answer can be that it will not be comfortable living in a world where the Soviet Union feels embattled. — (ONPS)

untrue circumstances of Algeria." The paper said that the death of President Houari Boumediene "Al-Bilad" said the new leaders were expected to limit the powers of the chief executive in order to make him

more accountable to the national assembly.

"The powers of the executive branch would also be severely restricted which may be something dictated by the

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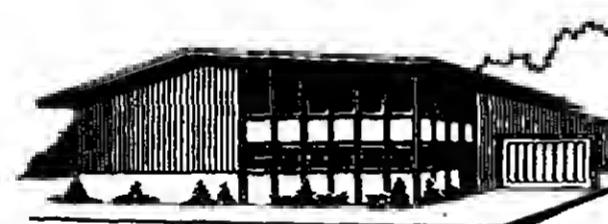
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Railway strike adds car chaos to U.K. misery

LONDON, Jan. 16 (AP) — Lines of cars stretched for six kilometers around London Tuesday as many of the capital city's 900,000 rail commuters were forced onto the roads by a nationwide rail strike.

And food and animal feed were stranded at picketed docks, and major industries reported more lay-offs because of a national truck drivers strike.

The government was expected to come under opposition attack in a crisis debate in the House of Commons later in the day.

But despite the labor crisis, sterling was steady Tuesday on the foreign exchanges after falling four cents in the past

two weeks. It was quoted mid-afternoon at between \$1.99 and \$2.00.

Peace moves were expected later Tuesday in yet another strike by 600 water and sewage workers which was affecting one million in the northwest of England.

The government said it was not planning to declare a state of emergency. "We are in control and we are not near a crisis," Home Secretary Merlyn Rees said.

Apart from some panic-buying in supermarkets and deep-freeze centers, life for the ordinary man and woman had not been badly affected by the labor troubles until Tuesday's rail strike.

But ministers agreed with business leaders who predicted that one million of Britain's 24-million work force will be laid off by the end of this week as a result of the truckers' pay dispute. Farmers warned of dire consequences to food supplies unless pickets released animal feed at the docks.

In a scathing article in the London "Evening Standard" Tuesday commentator Paul Johnson blamed Prime Minister James Callaghan for creating "the Frankenstein monster of union power" that was tearing Britain apart.

Although fewer than a quarter of the nation's 400,000 truck drivers are striking, secondary picketing paralyzed most big industries, the docks, and food warehouses.

The truckers want a 22-per cent wage increase, but have run up against government guidelines seeking to limit pay increases to five per cent a year. The drivers claim they earn just 33 pounds (\$106) for a 40-hour week. They want 65 pounds (\$130) and have been offered 60 pounds (\$120).

The 28,000 striking train drivers want a 10 per cent pay bonus similar to recent increases paid rail guards and drivers of British Rail's new high-speed trains.

Finance deputy flies to Cairo

RIYADH, Jan. 16 (SPA) — Deputy Finance Minister for Economic Affairs Dr. Mousa Al-Turki flew to Cairo Tuesday to attend meetings of an Arab experts' committee beginning here Wednesday.

The committee is to discuss final preparation for a unified Arab investment code.

Porthole takes Russian to freedom

SYDNEY, Jan. 16 (UPI) — An 18-year-old Russian woman squeezed through a porthole of a Russian cruise ship, dived into Sydney Harbor and swam to freedom in Australia, officials revealed Tuesday. After swimming for almost 40 minutes in darkness she was found Sunday wandering dazed near Sydney harbor's wharf and dock area, the officials said. But her bid for freedom may have been in vain. Immigration Minister Michael Mackellar said Tuesday it was very rare for Australia to grant political asylum.

SAVAK denies continuing torture

TEHRAN, Jan. 16 (R) — Iran's state security organization SAVAK Tuesday denied allegations by London-based Amnesty International that political prisoners were still being tortured in Iran. No Amnesty representative had even visited Iranian prisons, SAVAK said in a statement published in the local newspapers. The Amnesty report on Iran was issued last month.

Iran northeast trembles in quake

TEHRAN, Jan. 16 (R) — A powerful earthquake struck the northeast Iranian province of Khorasan Tuesday but there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage, the official radio said. It said the quake shook several towns and surrounding villages in southern areas of the province, where a massive tremor last September killed 15,000 people and destroyed the town of Tabas.

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Late News



JUBILATION: Arsenal striker Alan Sunderland raises his arms in joy after scoring Arsenal's second goal Monday night. But the joy was short-lived as Wednesday's Brian Hornsby pulled back to equalize the sides' third F.A. Cup encounter.

West Brom pummels Coventry in 4-0 rout

LONDON, Jan. 16 (R) — English First Division leader West Bromwich Albion stormed impressively into the fourth round of the Football Association (F.A.) Cup Monday night with a devastating 4-0 rout of Coventry City.

Albion, which took over the leadership of the division last Saturday, had a 7-1 victory over Coventry in the league earlier this season and it continued its mastery of its midland neighbor with two goals in each half of their replay. They had drawn 2-2 at Coventry last week.

Tony Brown scored twice while Brendan Batson and Ally Brown got the others. Manchester United also showed good form in getting through its twice-postponed third round tie against Chelsea 3-0 borne on goals by Steve Coppell, Ashley Grimes and Jimmy Greenhoff.

Second Division leader Crystal Palace foiled the chances of another First Division club, Middlesbrough, by upsetting it 1-0 at home thanks to a first-minute goal by fullback Ken Sesson, who may soon be claiming place in the England international side.

And there were other surprises. Aldershot of the Fourth

Division was beaten 1-1, and in the replay at Middlesbrough Monday night, Charlton took a 2-0 lead on goals from David Campbell and Martin Robinson. But Glen Coupland, who got the equalizer for Middlesbrough last week, pulled one back, then with 50 seconds remaining, the lights failed.

Arsenal, solidly entrenched in fourth place in the league, still could not dispose of

Third Division Sheffield Wednesday in its third attempt and will need a fourth try.

'Deliberate intention'

Militias harass UNIFIL, Waldheim says

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 16 (R) — Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim said Tuesday that Israeli-backed rightist militias appeared to be deliberately trying to harass the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

In a report to the Security Council recommending a further six-month extension of the force set up last March, Waldheim said that if UNIFIL's restraint continued to be exploited it might be necessary for the council to consider action to deal with the situation.

The council is expected to meet on Thursday to extend the life of UNIFIL at present numbering 5,852 men.

Referring to a previous report complaining of lack of cooperation from both the "de facto forces" — the militia — and the Israeli Army, Waldheim cited a "pattern of behavior on the part of the de facto forces that would suggest

a deliberate intention to harass UNIFIL" in its efforts to implement council resolutions.

UNIFIL was established both to check on the withdrawal of Israeli troops who had invaded southern Lebanon last March in a sweep against Palestinian bases and to help

restore the authority of the Lebanese government in the area.

But when the Israeli troops withdrew they handed over

control of a strip of border territory to Lebanese rightist militias.

Waldheim said harassment by the militia posed a serious

Soviets veto U.N. resolution

Key port retaken as Cambodia fight flares

BANGKOK, Jan. 16 (AP) — Forces of the toppled Cambodian regime recaptured the country's only seaport of Kompong Som Monday and Vietnamese Navy units began a bombardment of the city.

Thai intelligence sources said the city was retaken Monday and that Vietnamese forces flew the heaviest air strikes of the weeks-old war against the port. They could not say whether Kompong Som, 220 kilometers southeast of Phnom Penh on the Gulf of Siam, was still in the hands of toppled regime of Premier Pol Pot Tuesday.

The sources also reported sharp naval engagements around several islands to the northwest of Kompong Som and a Vietnamese attack and possible capture of the largest of them — Kong Island — which for several days has been re-

ported as a major center of activity for Cambodian remnants trying to set up guerrilla bases and begin an anti-Vietnamese insurgency.

Reporters at the Thai-Cambodian border Tuesday night saw parts of the Cambodian frontier town of Poipet go up in flames and heard sporadic explosions, but it was not certain who or what had started the blaze.

Thai frontier police said "someone" had set fire to Poipet just across a bridge from the Thai town of Aranyaprathet. Vietnamese forces had earlier been reported to be within 10 to 20 kilometers of Poipet.

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